

'CIA Agent' Finds Borrowed Cloak Too Thin a Cover

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By LEIGHTON McLAUGHLIN
Herald Staff Writer

The cloak-and-dagger career of Jack C. Leahy ended Monday before he got it off the ground.

The conservatively dressed Leahy appeared at the National Airlines ticket counter in Miami International Airport Sunday night and asked for a ticket to San Francisco.

Everything was fine until he tried to pay the \$299 passage with a counter check, offering identification considered inadequate by ticket agent Joseph Smith.

Leahy said he was with the Central Intelligence Agency and he had to get to San Francisco. Something important for the national interest, was up out there, he implied.

Smith, whose responsibility is National's interests, suggested that Leahy come back Monday with more identification. After

all, his flight didn't leave until then.

Leahy agreed, and walked off.

A few minutes later, Smith's phone rang. The man on the other end announced he was "Mr. Brice" from the CIA.

The burden of Brice's message was that he knew Leahy, worked with him and would Smith please give him the ticket.

Leahy arrived on Monday to pick up the ticket "Mr. Brice" had OK'd for him.

Smith was still hesitant. He called an airport security officer, who questioned Leahy briefly and then called the FBI.

The FBI reported Leahy was not a CIA agent at all. He was a 54-year-old used car salesman from 2107 NE 17th Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Also, Leahy's bank account amounted to something less than \$299, said the FBI.

The G-men charged the salesman with impersonating a federal employe. He was booked before a U.S. commissioner and lodged in the Dade County Jail.

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